

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West



Aerial view of the Folsom Dam Auxiliary Spillway

The Folsom Dam Auxiliary Spillway project is approximately \$900-million cooperative effort between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation. Reclamation completed most of the excavation for the spillway chute in the project's first two phases. In May 2012, the Granite Construction Company of Watsonville, Calif., was awarded a \$125.9 million contract to construct the spillway during phase three. In May 2013, Kiewit Infrastructure West Company was awarded a \$255.1 million contract to complete construction on the new spillway at Folsom Dam during phase four.

The new spillway was constructed to release water safely from Folsom Lake during high water levels to protect communities during a flood. Folsom Lake Crossing was closed to vehicle and pedestrian traffic for up to one hour on weekdays beginning in March 2011 in order to blast rock where the control structure for the new spillway will be constructed. Sections of the lake within 2,500 feet of the blast area were also restricted.

The spillway includes a 1,100-foot-long approach channel that will funnel water from the lake into the spillway; a control structure with six submerged gates (three of the six gates have been installed) that will be operated in coordination with the gates on the Folsom Dam to control water releases; a 3,027-foot-long spillway chute that transports the water from the control structure to the American

River; and a stilling basin that will slow the racing water back to normal flow levels that the river channel will be able to withstand.

The auxiliary spillway is scheduled to be completed in late 2017.

For more information on the Folsom Dam Auxiliary Spillway, please visit:

<http://www.usbr.gov/mp/jfp/events/index.html>

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